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neglectus, *Pallasea cancelloides*, *Gammaracanthus loricatus*, *Pontoporeia affinis*, *Asellus aquaticus*), illustrated with ten highly finished plates; the cost of publication being most generously supplied by Mr. Johnsen, Reviser of the State. From the elder Sars we may soon expect an equally well illustrated description of the remarkable new genus of stalked Crinoids (*Rhizocrinus*), discovered by his son in the depths of the ocean at Lofoten; and from Mr. A. Bøeck, a detailed description of the Norwegian and Arctic Amphipoda, with many plates. The magnificent Geological Chart of Norway, south of the mountain-ridge (der Sönderfieldske Norge or the "stifts" of Hamar, Christiania, and Christianasand), published by Professor Kjerulf and Mr. Tellef Dahll, in ten sheets, large quarto, in the text, and profiles, etc., is the result of many years' explorations by the Geological Survey of Norway, conducted by Professor Kjerulf. Among similar works, it no doubt occupies a high place, as it fills up a great gap in the knowledge of the geological constitution of Europe, contributes considerably to the history of the earliest geological metamorphosis of the globe, and must be reckoned among the highest scientific monuments hitherto erected in Scandinavia. "Norway is now," as said Professor Steenstrup in his speech at the meeting of the Scandinavian naturalists, this summer in Christiania, "the classical soil, not only of Zoölogy, but also of Geology."

NATURAL HISTORY MISCELLANY.

BOTANY.

We pause a moment before passing to our Botanical Miscellany, to record the sudden death, by consumption, on November 11, 1868, at the early age of twenty-four, of our fellow student and valued friend, HORACE MANN. We had almost looked upon him as our botanical editor, and have been constantly indebted to his accurate botanical knowledge and wise counsels in the editorial management of this magazine.

The country has lost a thoroughly disciplined and scholarly mind, and one of its leading and most promising botanists, and the readers of the *Naturalist* a contributor, whose reviews of botanical works, critical study and identification of their specimens, and unwritten essays promised for its pages, would have both quickened their zeal for the study of Nature, and secured for the botanical portion of the magazine a most elevated character.

THE COLCHICUM AUTUMNALE found growing wild in the wet meadows of the sub-alpine regions of Italy and Switzerland, has been seen in consid-
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erable abundance in a meadow not far from the lake of Dublin, N. H., doubtless introduced, but when and how cannot be ascertained. My informant, who kindly brought me some flowers and bulbs on the third of October last, says that there were fifty or more in blossom then, and although having been noticed there for three or four years past, do not seem to have attracted any attention previously. — J. L. R., *Salem*.

THE DOUBLE SAXIFRAGE found in Danvers, Mass., three years ago, and mentioned in the November number of the AMERICAN NATURALIST, was a fortunate "find" of John H. Sears, of that town, an ardent and enthusiastic practical naturalist, whose modesty is as conspicuous as his acuteness of observation. To him I am indebted for a superb specimen of *Polyporus hispidus*, for showing me a locality of the rare little *Moneses uniflora*, and for many similar favors.

As early as May 4th, 1849, some flowers of the *Saxifraga Virginensis*, all full-double and very beautiful, were brought me while residing at Hingham, Mass., gathered by a young person while "Maying" on the first of the month. My knowledge of the fact connected with this plant thus dates farther back than even Mr. Meehan's, whose idea concerning double flowers is worthy of attention. Semi "full-double" flowers of the *Thalictrum anememoides*, were found near Cincinnati, Ohio, by my esteemed friend, the late Thomas G. Lee, as early as 1834; and on submitting the plant to a generous culture, in five years' time it produced full-double blossoms." — J. L. R., *Salem*.

VIOLA PEDATA occurs here in two varieties not mentioned in Gray's Botany, viz., white and pink; the former quite frequently. The pink variety is rare. I have only found it once or twice. I have also seen *Pogonia ophioglossoides* purely white. *Plantago prisilla* occurs here, a little east of its range (Gray's Manual, page 269). *Arisæma triphyllum* occasionally has its leaves 5-7, and more, parted. — W. P. BOLLES, *New London*.

RECENT BOTANICAL DISCOVERIES. — Mr. Berkeley opened the proceedings of the Botanical Section of the British Association, with a remarkably interesting address. He directed his remarks, first, to recent researches and speculations in Cryptogamic Botany, on which he is so well qualified to speak judicially, and then to the theory of Pangenesis. He alluded to the observations of DeBary and Cienkowski on organisms which appear to be intermediate between plants and animals, such as Myxomycetes and some forms of Monads, and confirmed the deductions which they drew from their observations. He then noticed Hallier's views as to the fungoid origin of certain diseases. At first Hallier had merely observed fungi in Asiatic cholera, but recently he had stated that in typhus, typhoid, and measles (in the blood), in variola and in vaccinia (in the exanthemes), he had found certain minute organisms which he termed Micrococci, which, when cultivated in the way known to students of moulds, etc., produced each a constant and characteristic fungus. He did not consider that Hallier had proved his case; his experiments were

far from conclusive, and he drew conclusions hastily. It was quite possible that certain fungi might occur constantly in substances of a certain chemical and molecular constitution; but this might be a case of effect instead of cause.

The recent researches of Mr. Herbert Spencer had shown by the introduction of colored fluids into the tissues of the living plant, that the sap not only ascends by the vascular tissue of plants, but that the same tissue returns and distributes the sap after it has been modified in the leaves. — *Quarterly Journal of Science, London.*

CUBAN PLANTS FOR SALE.—I have made thirteen (13) sets. The largest one contains two thousand two hundred and fifty three (2,253) species or well marked varieties. The others diminish pretty regularly to the last, which has but six hundred and thirty seven (637) species. My collections have always sold at ten dollars per hundred when our money was gold and silver, but I am willing to take the same amount now in currency. The larger sets give a very fair idea of the Cuban flora, and are fuller than any other collection of Cuban plants except three,—that of the Herbarium at Cambridge, Mass., that of the Kew Gardens, England, and one belonging to Mr. Sauvalle, of Havana. — CHARLES WRIGHT, *Cambridge, Mass.*

BOTANICAL NOTES.—I observe frequent notices of plants in the NATURALIST which produce white flowers. I have collected specimens of a white variety of *Mimulus ringens** for a number of years, which adds another to the list of albinos. Last season I detected *Nuphar Kalmiana* with two kinds of leaves, the usual floating ones, and another set of submerged ones, which were very thin, and when dry almost transparent. Are those submerged leaves usually found with the plant?† We have a *Rubus* in this vicinity which seems to be a connecting link between *R. strigosus* and *occidentalis*.‡ Has *Myozurus minimus* ever been found east of Pennsylvania, in the United States? I collect it here at Belleville.§ — JOHN MACOUN, *Belleville, Canada.*

[Brief botanical notes would be welcome to the NATURALIST, and we should print the most useful. —EDS.]

HEPATICA TRILOBA.—Some authors speak of a variety with five-lobed leaves. Now I think the five-lobed leaves are not the true leaves, but changed flower buds. I have some of the plants under cultivation, and frequently the bunches push up leaves (such as I send you) with five lobes. These bunches do not bear flowers, the five-lobed leaves appearing with the flowers of the other bunches, and the true leaves afterwards, coming out simultaneous with the leaves of the flowering plants.

*There is a white var. of almost everything, even of the Cardinal flower. I think I never heard of it in the *Mimulus*. — A. G.

†Always in this and the ordinary *N. luteum* of Europe, etc.; very rare in *N. advena*. See Gray's Manual of Botany, revised edition, page 57. — A. G.

‡Is not this *R. occidentalis*, with white or amber colored berries? Grows in Vermont. See Gray's Manual, page 157. — A. G.

§The farthest east known, if wild. It may have come direct from Europe. — A. G.

While travelling in the Grand Traverse region of Northern Michigan last May, I observed, growing in the beech and maple woods, plants of *Trillium erythrocarpum*, which were fair representatives of metamorphosed plants. The petioles much elongated (2'-4'); leaves very large and distorted; sepals leaf-like, raised on petioles an inch or more long. The petals likewise leaf-like, colored green, with a few white lines. Even the stamens and pistils were colored green, and all vestige of the flowers had disappeared. I was so situated as to be unable to preserve any of the specimens I found. I also found *Uvularia perfoliata* Linn., bearing two, three, and even four flowers upon a single plant, which I believe to be as uncommon.—R. H. FISHER, *Mt. Etna, Ind.*

ZOÖLOGY.

THE MCNIEL EXPEDITION.—In the November NATURALIST a short notice was given of Mr. McNiel's expedition to Central America. After about five months work in the field, and the expenditure of about all his funds, Mr. McNiel availed himself of the great liberality of the Panama Railroad Company, and Pacific Mail Steamship Company, to return home with his collections, free of cost, in order to refit and consult in regard to more extended operations, which the knowledge he had derived during his trip seemed to make most desirable. The plan is now for him to return to Nicaragua, accompanied with an assistant and competent collector and taxidermist, in the person of Mr. Walker, a student of the Peabody Academy of Science, provided about \$3000 can be secured for the purpose.

The many acts of kindness received by Mr. McNiel from the officers of the Panama Railroad and Pacific Mail Steamship Companies, and their generosity, expressed in the substantial form of free passes and free transportation of materials, and the hospitality and kindly assistance received and proffered from Don J. J. and Capt. F. B. DeShon, Mr. Nelson, Mr. Sternburgh, Col. Haratzthy, Capt. Douglass, and others; and the interest in his labors and aid extended by the official authorities, secures a decided success to the continuation of the expedition; and with the assistance of Mr. Walker, who will more especially devote himself to the collecting of birds and mammals, large and valuable results are looked for with a certainty of fulfilment. It is proposed to return Mr. McNiel back to his field of work in a few weeks, so as to take full advantage of the dry season, which is far more conducive to collecting than the rainy one in which most of his collections thus far have been made. On his return, special attention will be given to archæological and ethnological matters, as well as zoölogical, and interesting results are looked for in these researches.

Among the specimens brought home by Mr. McNiel, consisting of corals, shells (marine, fresh water, and land), insects (including a large number of butterflies, beetles, and tarantulas), fishes, reptiles (including